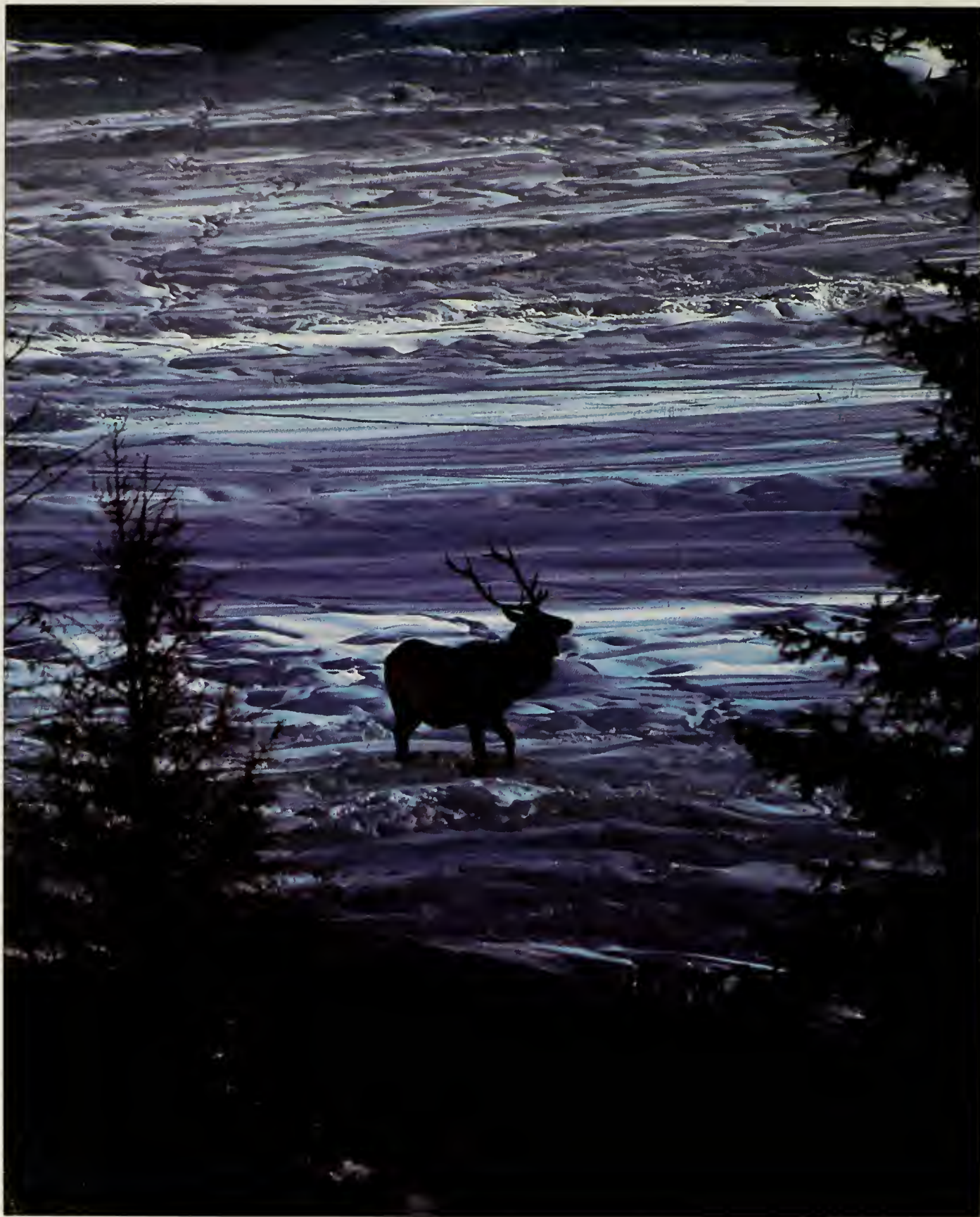


January/February 1993 \$2.00

MONTANA OUTDOORS



*Special
Photo Issue*



Winter vigil — Bill Swanson

MONTANA OUTDOORS

January/February 1993
Volume 24, Number 1

It is our privilege to introduce this Special Photo Issue of Montana Outdoors. We Montanans are proud of the beauty, the splendor, and indeed the "wild magic" of our state.

With the phrase, "Montana is wild magic," Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks Director K.L. Cool opened a series of 1992 presentations which visually and linguistically highlighted Montana's wildlife and wild country. With assistance from Craig Jourdonnais, our department's video specialist, and Kay Ellerhoff, associate editor of this magazine, the presentation was given nearly 15 times in the last year—to such diverse groups as the Montana Bowhunters, a National Trails Symposium, a National Watchable Wildlife Conference, the National Association of State Budget Officers, and to other important groups and organizations both in and out of our state. It therefore seemed appropriate to introduce this 12th annual Special Photo Issue of Montana Outdoors with those same words.

In the speech, some remarkable slides were used to focus the audience's attention on the beauty, the majesty, and the opportunity Montana offers. In the pages that follow, the magazine staff has tried to do the same thing with excerpts from the talk coupled with spectacular images from some of our state's most talented photographers.

We hope the magic of Montana's wild heritage is re-captured here in this Special Photo Issue of Montana Outdoors.

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Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission
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Elaine Allestad
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Front cover
Mountain goat — Jim Mephram

Back cover
Great gray owl —
Ed & Bobbie Taylor

Calligraphy — Marvel Nye



Sunset over the Pintlers — John W. Herbst

*We will do what is right to project a positive image of these amenities in a Montana
where mountains pierce skyward, where sweeping plains bend the horizon....*



Mule deer — George Schuyler



Partners — Ben O. Williams



Several years ago, our department conducted a series of studies to help us better understand the current economic value of the resources we manage. The results of these studies showed that two activities commonly taken for granted as mainstays of the Montana lifestyle—hunting and fishing—were also enormously important to this state's economy.

Hen pheasant — Richard Mousel



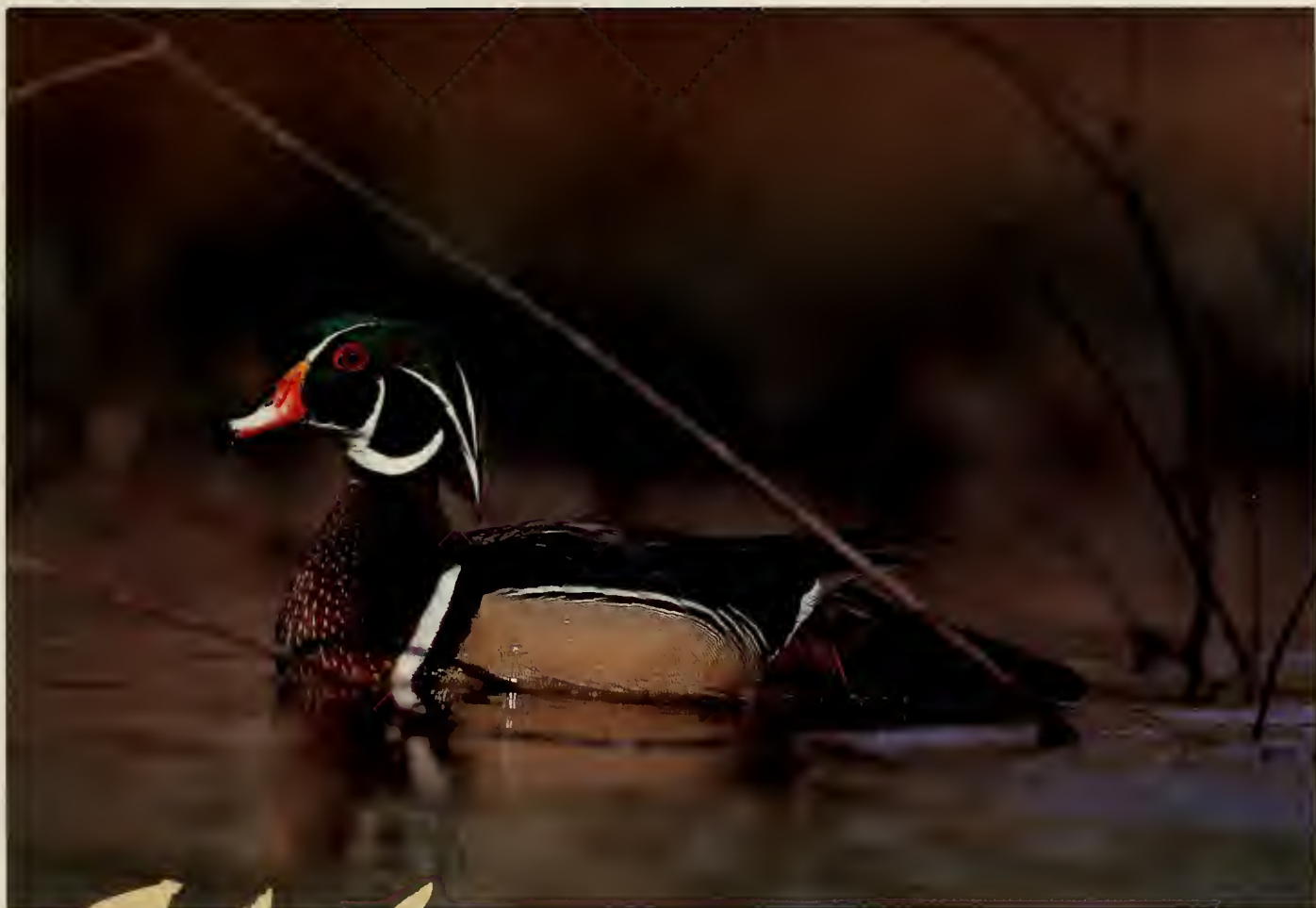
Swans on ice — Pete & Alice Bengeyfield



*Our future lies in what we can do
best in this "last best place."
Those of us in natural
resource management are
the producers of some very
potent, yet fragile,
amenities.*



Sora rail — Alan G. Nelson



Watchable wildlife is not competitive with hunting or fishing or trapping. It broadens our base of support by increasing the number of people who care. It therefore strengthens the collective voice needed to protect and manage our wild future.

Wood duck — Joe Mac Hudspeth, Jr.



Our wild resources are enjoyed not only by hunters and fishermen, but also by countless wildlife observers and photographers—residents and non-residents who take great pleasure in simply sharing precious moments with our marvelous wild heritage.

Butterfly convention (a common alpine surrounded by blues)—Dave Bennett



Banded garden spider — Charles B. Place, III



*We intend to keep Montanans,
our visitors and their
interests in mind as we
manage the natural
wonders of Montana
and set out to show more
people the best of what's
left.*

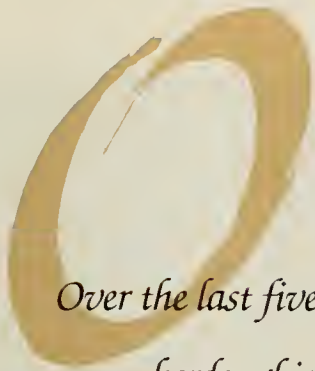




Ibex Peak near Noxon — John C. Parker



Canada geese — Harry Engels



Over the last five decades, we have come full circle. Our success is now measured in elk herds which number 100,000, world-class bighorn rams, antelope, deer by the hundreds of thousands, and a variety and color of upland game birds and waterfowl to challenge the imagination.



Spring creek mallards — Ben O. Williams



To hunters, the name conjures up images of majestic mountains inhabited by six-point bulls—images where the music of the elk pierces the ear just as these mountains pierce our big sky.

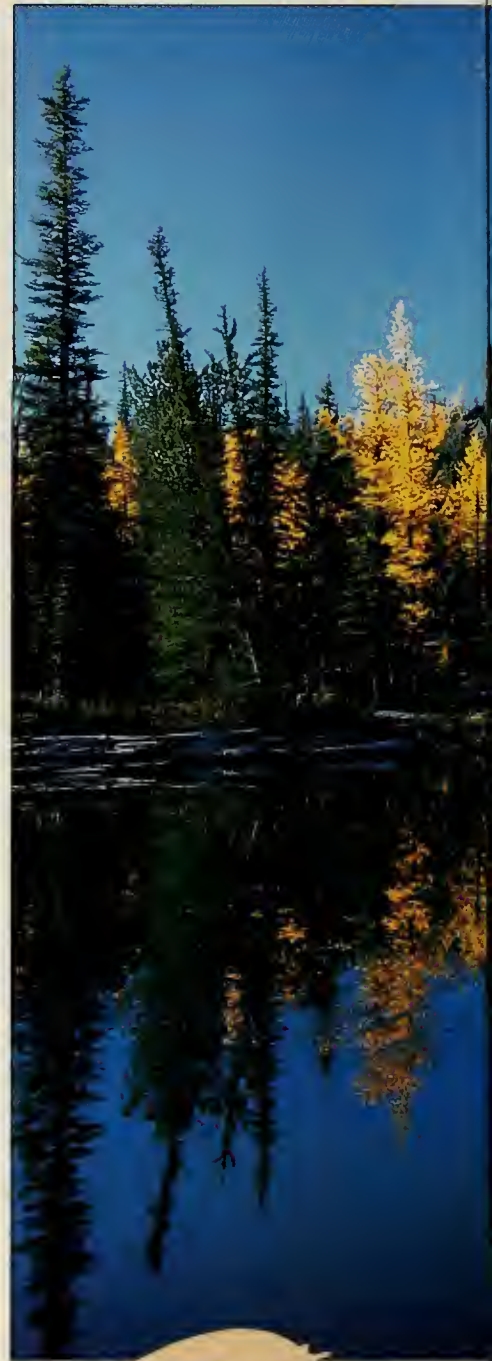
Bull elk—Jim Mephram



Grizzly sow — Mike Logan



Avalanche Creek, Glacier National Park — John Lambing



St. Mary Lake, Glacier National Park — Steve Torna

*Creeks, streams, rivers, ponds,
never overlook what m
preserved in natural en*



Baker Lake, Bitterroot Mountains — Mark Lagerstrom

reservoirs, and lakes provide opportunity for nearly every fishing interest. However, we must
ges us special. It is not the fisheries we have created in modified habitats, but those we have
ronments.



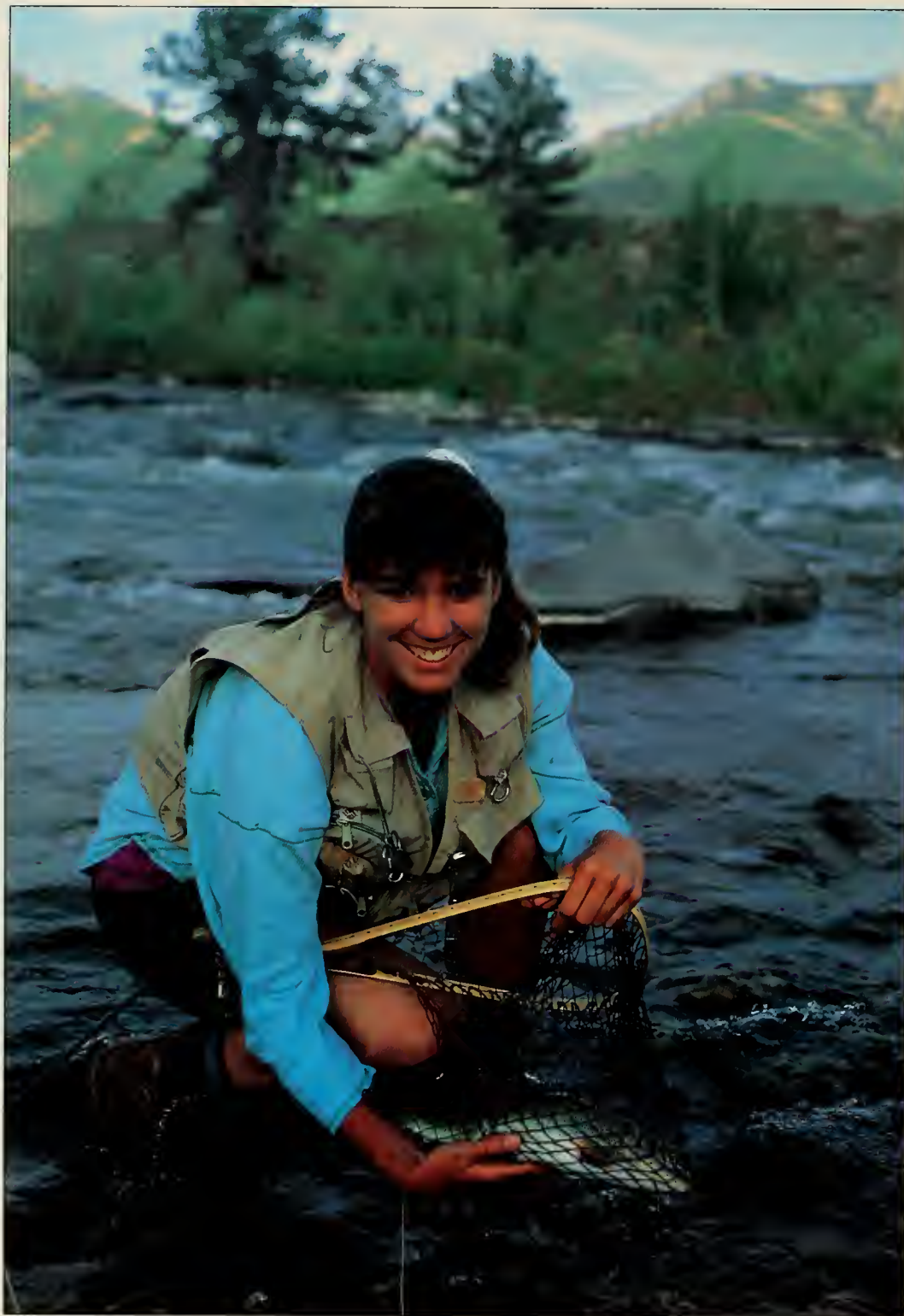
Montana is the “last best place” because of resources we are preserving, restoring,

Missouri River between Judith Landing and Fred Robinson Bridge — Kristi DuBois



and managing with sensitivity.

Yellowstone River near Forsyth — Connie Wanner



Madison River rainbow — Steve Dahmer



Montana's rivers are stretches of water with exciting names: the Madison, the Big Hole, the Gallatin, the Yellowstone, the Missouri, the Beaverhead, the Blackfoot, the Kootenai, and the Flathead. These are the names that stir the souls of fishermen everywhere.

South Fork of the Flathead River, Bob Marshall Wilderness Area — Diane Ensign



Consider Montana's abundant wildlife. Over 500 species of mammals, birds, reptiles, and amphibians fly, crawl, run, or otherwise scramble over our landscape.

Mountain lion cub — Barbara Thomas



Marten — Dan & Cindy Hartman



Montana's wildlife resource is impressive in its quantity and diversity.

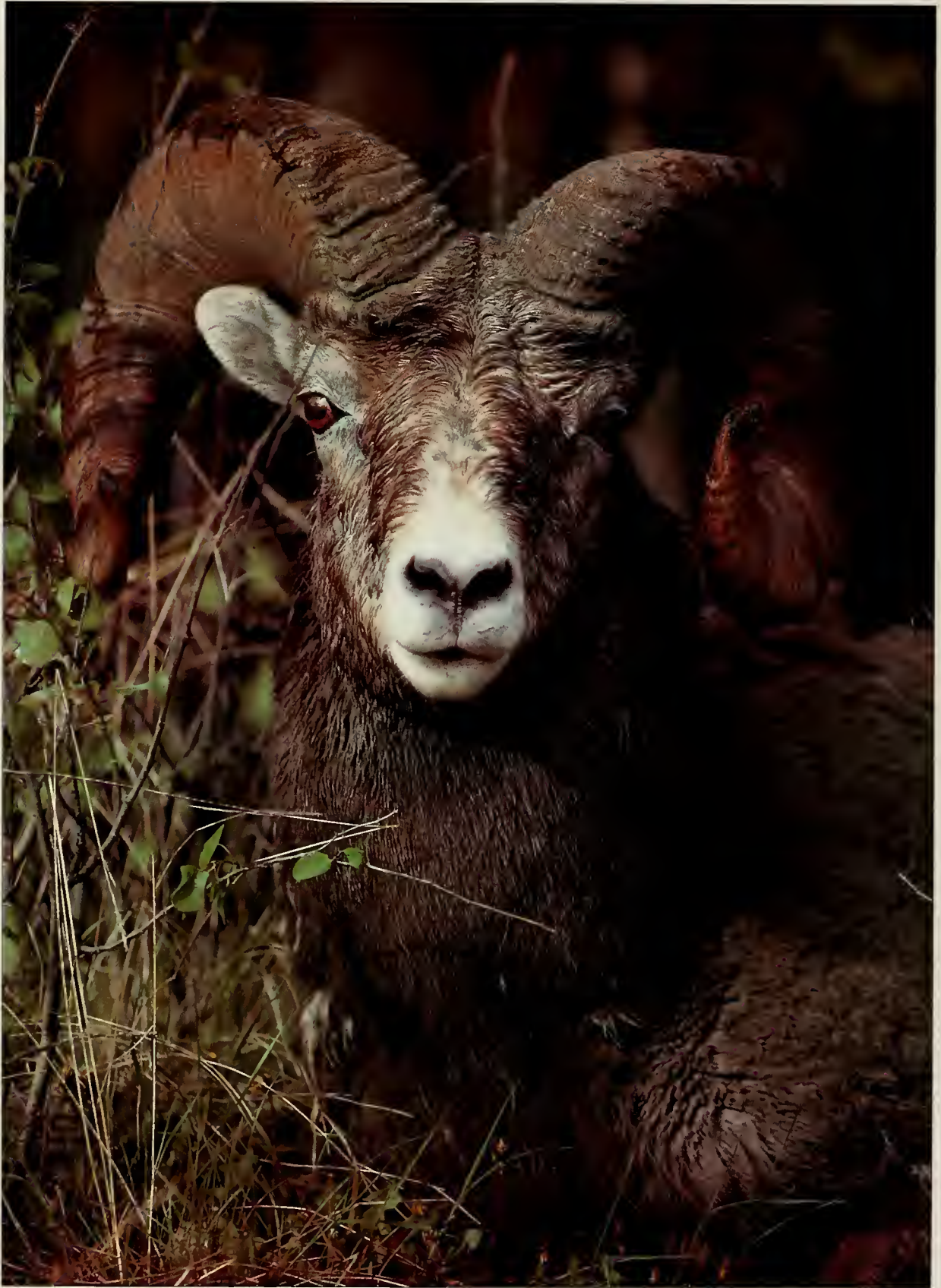
Coyote — Dave McGee



Bushytail woodrat — Michael Mauro



Cottontail — Richard Mousel



Bighorn ram — Steve Toma



Pronghorn — Pete & Alice Bengeyfield

Montana is indeed wild magic because our future has been nurtured and cared for by five decades of Montana conservationists. Our future will include hunting, fishing, trapping, and watchable wildlife. Our future is now.



Moose — Pete & Alice Bengeyfield



White-tailed deer — Dave McGee



Makoshika State Park (both photos) — Richard Mousel



From Glacier to Yellowstone lie hidden treasures—the Pictograph Caves, Makoshika and its badlands and fossils, and Canyon Ferry, to name only a few. Our parks are a certain measure of our success as a culture. They chronicle, preserve, and share our history.

*Montana's future lies in the power of
our natural splendor—our
history, our wildlife, our rivers.*



Packin' in — George Schuyler





Moon over the Crazy Mountains — Michael & Patsy Fribley



Montana is truly the "last best place," particularly in terms of fish, wildlife, and recreational resources....

Prairie sunset — George Schuyler



By working together we can showcase, sustain, and expand upon that promise.

Montana's wild magic can shine brightly for all of us.

Bison — Dave McGee

